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Immediate Release

**ACCREDITATION TEAM INVITES PUBLIC COMMENTS ABOUT THE
SURFSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

SURFSIDE: A team of assessors from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) will arrive August 1-3, 2012 to examine all aspects of the Department's policies and procedures, management, operations, and support services, Chief David Allen announced today. Surfside Police Department has to comply with approximately 260 standards in order to achieve reaccreditation by verifying it meets professional standards. Many of the 260 standards are critical to life, health and safety issues.

As part of the on-site assessment, Department members and the general public are invited to offer comments to the assessment team. A copy of the standards is available through the Department's Accreditation Manager Lieutenant Richard Williams in Surfside at 305-861-4862 x 215.

For more information regarding CFA or for persons wishing to offer written comments about the Department's ability to meet the standards of accreditation, please write: CFA, P.O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, Florida 32302, or email to info@flaccreditation.org

The Accreditation Team Program Manager is Danielle Desilet. She said the assessment team is composed of law enforcement practitioners from similar agencies. The assessors will review written materials; interview individuals; and visit offices and other places where compliance can be witnessed. The CFA Assessment Team Leader is Bureau Chief Ron Cave from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Law Enforcement. Other team members are Captain Penny Phelps from the Monroe County Sheriff's Office and Lieutenant Michelle Price from the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office.

Once the Commission's assessors complete their review of the Department, they report back to the full Commission, which will then decide if the Department is to receive re-accredited status. Surfside Police Department accreditation is for an additional 3 years. Verification by the team that the Surfside Police Department meets the Commission's standards is part of a voluntary process to gain or maintain accreditation--a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence.